

Title: **NEW ADB BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES,
PROPOSED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
PROJECTS UNDER GRANT PROGRAMS
JUNE 2006**

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This report alerts U.S. firms to **US\$ 17.84 million** in new technical assistance projects under the grant programs being administered by the Asian Development Bank for which consulting services may or may not be required. Opportunities are reported for India and Laos. For 2005, U.S. firms, including many small consulting firms, succeeded in winning US\$46.26 million ADB-funded national technical assistance contracts out of a total ADB-financed consulting budget of US\$410.03 million.

The ADB selects a consultant for a TA grant based on its prior Expression of Interest (EOI). An EOI can be transmitted on-line through the ADB's website (www.adb.org); afterward it will be acknowledged automatically. Firms may opt to send a hardcopy follow-up EOI addressed to Mr. Robert J. Robertson, Director, Consulting Services Division, with a copy to the ADB Project Officer. The EOI should relate a firm's experience and expertise to the ADB project. It is important for a U.S. firm to emphasize its similar project experience in the country, or in a similar geographic area, rather than present a general profile of its consulting activities. A separate EOI should be submitted for each project. The project name indicated in the EOI should exactly match that listed in the ADB Business Opportunities publication to avoid confusion.

To be considered for employment, consulting firms must register on the ADB's DACON (Data on Consulting Firms) system, or for individual consultants on the DICON (Data on Individual Consultants) system. Otherwise, their EOIs will not be accepted. DACON and DICON registration can be done on-line at www.adb.org/consulting.

ADB's DACON (<http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dacon.asp>) is a database of firms and other organizations from the ADB's member countries that are qualified to provide consulting services for ADB projects. The DACON contains information on the experience and capacity of the firms and organizations. ADB requires firms or organizations to register on the DACON so that the ADB can consider them for short-listing for a technical assistance project. The term "firm or organization" covers all sources of consultants, such as consulting firms, government agencies, public sector organizations, national and international institutions and non-government organizations.

The DICON (<http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dicon.asp>) system contains the names of persons who are citizens of ADB's member countries; are at the forefront of their respective fields; and may be practicing consultants or employees, whose organizations are prepared to release them for short periods to serve ADB; or retired persons with special experience who are still active.

Firms may also send a notification copy of their EOIs to the U.S. mailing address for the U.S. Commercial Service Liaison Office to the ADB, Attention: Frank Foster, Senior Commercial Officer, PSC 500 Box 33, FPO AP 96515-1000, or to the same office at its international mailing address: 25th Floor Ayala Life-FGU Center, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines 1226; Phone: (63-2) 887-1345; Fax: (63-2) 887-1164; E-mail: manila.adb.office.box@mail.doc.gov. Information about these projects are likewise available on our website at <http://www.buyusa.gov/adb>. This office works closely with the Office of the U.S. Executive Director to the ADB to increase American awareness of, and participation in, the ADB's activities.

The projects listed in this report are now being actively processed by the ADB. For more information on these projects, the name of the ADB project officer is indicated in the project brief. The U.S Commercial Service Liaison Office to the ADB is ready to provide assistance to U.S. firms upon request.

The following technical assistance grant projects are reprinted with permission from the Asian Development Bank from the ADB Website (<http://www.adb.org>) and appeared for the first time in May 2006. For more information on development in Asia and the Pacific, see <http://www.adb.org>.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROJECTS, JUNE 2006

A. INDIA

Project Name : **Restoration and Diversification of Livelihoods for Tsunami Affected Poor & Marginalized People in the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala**

Project No. : IND 39490-01

Executing Agency : Disaster Management Department of Kerala
Contact: John Mathai, Principal Secretary
Revenue Administration, Disaster Management and Mitigation
Contact: C. V. Sankar, Office of State Relief Commission

Grant Amount : US\$ 5,000,000.00

Sector/Sub-sector : Multisector

Objectives and Scope:

The purpose of the project is to restore and diversify the livelihoods of the Tsunami-affected poor and marginalised people in the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The key project components are (i) set up a fully serviced model fishing village complex to help tsunami-affected members of the fishing community and others, whose livelihoods are closely linked to fishing community activities; (ii) create value addition to the seafood and related produce and establish market links for a long-term sustainable income-generating program for tsunami-affected poor in the vicinity; (iii) pilot new approaches through infusion of technologies in sustainable income-generating activities and develop opportunities for alternative livelihoods; and (iv) introduce livelihood activities that reduce vulnerability to natural disasters.

Consulting Services: The Executing Agency will engage, through the implementation agencies, local NGOs, CBOs and consultants to provide the required services for implementation, management and progress monitoring of the JFPR grant. The engagement will be in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission to be scheduled.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in August 2006.

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In-country U.S. Embassy

Commercial Officer : c/o U.S. Commercial Service, New Delhi
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B. LAOS

B.1: Project Name : **Basic Education Development (Investment)**
Project No. : LAO 32312-02
Executing Agency : Ministry of Education
Contact: Mr. Lytou Bouapao, Director
Address: Department of Planning and International
Cooperation, Vientiane
Fax. No.: (856-21) 216-006
Grant Amount : US\$ 9,840,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Education /Basic Education

Objectives and Scope:

The objectives of the Project are to enhance equitable access to lower secondary education, improve the quality of formal secondary education with an emphasis on lower secondary, and strengthen education management. The project will supplement the policy initiatives under the program through (i) increased lower secondary education opportunities, (ii) improved quality and relevance of lower secondary education, and (iii) capacity building at central, provincial and district level in critical areas (EMIS, budgeting and financial management, and planning). The project targets 20 districts in six provinces (Attapeu, Bokeo, Champasack, Khammuane, Luang Namtha, and Savannakhet).

Consulting Services: About 190 person months of consulting services (78.5 person-months international and 111.5 person-months of domestic) will be required. The selection and engagement of consulting services will be done in a single package, using the quality- and cost-based selection (QCBS) method. The consulting services are designed to support the project as well as build longer-term capacity for planning, management and delivery of basic education. The consulting services cover broad areas of expertise that include (i) policy reform; (ii) social and community development; (iii) curriculum and materials development; (iv) data collection and analysis; (v) EMIS development, and (vi) facilities and equipment improvement.

Environmental Assessment: Not Required.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission Completed: 5 May 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in November 2006.

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Scott Rolston, Commercial Officer
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B.2: Project Name : **Basic Education Development Program**
Project No. : LAO 32312-03
Executing Agency : Ministry of Education
Contact: Mr. Lytou Bouapao, Director
Fax. No.: (856-21) 216-006
Address: Department of Planning and International
Cooperation, Vientiane
Grant Amount : US\$ 3,000,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Education /Basic Education

Objectives and Scope:

The program grant will support policy interventions aimed at: (i) improving equity in access to and participation in primary and lower secondary education through pro-poor systemic and targeted interventions; (ii) improving quality, internal efficiency and relevance of primary and lower secondary education by supporting the extension of lower secondary education from 3 to 4 grades through a more relevant and integrated basic education curriculum, enhancing the teaching and learning environment in basic education, and improved attention to students' assessment by teachers; (iii) enhancing capacity for decentralized education management through improved, country-wide Education Management Information System (EMIS); an improved, outcome-oriented budgeting, financial management system, and more relevant and realistic planning, aligned with budgeting and in line with national policies.

Consulting Services: No consulting services are required.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 5 May 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: No consulting services required.

Project Officer : Sukhdeep Brar

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